



THE ISUZU FA VASE
SECOND ROUND QUALIFYING

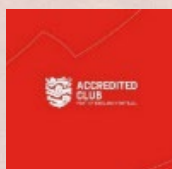
VWFC VS WINSLOW UNITED



SATURDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER 2024

ARBOUR PARK, 3PM KO

VIRGINIA WATER FC
WATERS



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A very warm welcome to the players, officials and supporters of Winslow United. Welcome to Arbour Park, I hope you enjoy our facilities.

It was a great result by the boys last week, a win away at Ardley is a great 3 points.

Things were a tad more relaxed for me at the weekend though, I was on a 6 day cruise to La Caruna, Bilbao and Bordeaux! It was a great week with Eva and Joe, with some of the best food I've ever tasted.

The FA Vase always brings an element of excitement to all the clubs at step 5 with the

potential prize of Wembley on the horizon, it would be nice to have a run this year, as it's always been a competition we've not really progressed in.

A warm welcome to our mascots and their parents today, let's hope for a good game and of course, a win.

Up the



THE CHAIR



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WE ARE THE WATERS



Virginia Water Football Club was formed during the 1919-1920 season, and celebrated its centenary in 2020. During the reign of King Edward VIII, Waters gained financial support (Royal Patronage) from the Crown, in the sum of £2 per annum. This continued throughout the reign of King George VI, who actually 'gifted' VWFC their current ground. Until 1964 Waters were part of the Woking & District League, at which time they joined the Surrey Intermediate League, moving on to the Spartan League soon after.

In 1969 the clubhouse at the Timbers was erected and opened by Sir Stanley Rouse, CBE, who was then President of FIFA. The Timbers was given this name after the late Harry Timbers, one of the founder members of our Club. In 1970 Waters gained promotion from the Spartan League to the Combined Counties League, and steady progress saw them gain entry into the FA Vase. The 1980's were a disappointing period in our history, that saw successive relegations to the Surrey South Eastern Combination Intermediate League. The 1990/91 season proved a turning point, with Waters winning the Surrey Intermediate Cup, beating Colney Hall 3-0 in the final. This was followed with promotion to the Surrey Premier League and Combined Counties League, but we were only allowed to stay there for one season due to league ground grading rulings.

Despite that relegation, Waters won three Surrey County Premier Cups in 1995, 1996 and 1997, the latter being part of a historic League and League Cup Treble! With league name changes the norm, in 2000 the Surrey Premier League became the Surrey Senior League, where Waters stayed until 2002, before joining the Surrey Intermediate League (Western), for three seasons before another relegation and immediate promotion. In 2010 Waters won promotion to the Surrey Elite League. Despite winning the County and League Cups, further promotion proved elusive.

Ceri Jones was appointed manager in 2015-16, finishing fourth in his first season in charge. The following season he appointed Richard Banks as Head Coach, and Waters duly won back-to-back promotions to the Hellenic League Division One, then Premier (competing at Step 5 for the first time in the club's history) - including a cup double in 2016-17. After a period of consolidation in the Hellenic Premier Division, there was to be another FA National League System adjustment, that saw Waters moved across to the Combined Counties Premier League (North).

At the end of the 2021-22 season, after 7 successful years as manager, Ceri became Director of Football, and appointed Adam Bessent as his successor along with Jake Bessent as Assistant Manager. The 2022/23 season saw us reach the Senior County Cup final, finishing second to Met Police in the final, and also our highest ever league position - a respectable 7th place. The Bessent's sadly resigned their positions early in to the 2023/24 season. An internal promotion saw Adam Sams take over the reins as the new First Team manager, ably assisted by Ben Warren as first team coach, and successfully lead the club to another 7th place League finish and reach the Combined Counties Premier League Cup Final where we were narrowly beaten by Burnham FC 2-1 to be Runner's Up. The club still aims for continued success, both on and off the pitch, in the future and the move, under a new Ground Share arrangement, to the great facilities at Slough Town is seen as a step forward for the 2024/25 Season.

Waters also have a youth section at the club (VWFC Youth), which the club proudly aspires to, and uses as a direct pathway to adult football. The Youth Section continues to flourish; it now stands at 19 teams and growing rapidly, especially our girls program, in partnership with the FA Wildcats scheme, which will see 4 Girls Teams (U9, U10, U11 and U13) play under the Waters Banner in the 2024/25 season.





Matt Jones **Goalkeeper**
Product of the QPR academy and an ever present in goal over the past 9 seasons. Consistently impresses



Finn Evered **Defender**
Towering centre back, returning to the club after a 2-year hiatus. Commanding and calm, a big presence at the back



Ryan Blake **Defender**
Stalwart of the Waters defence, with football league pedigree at Brentford. Loyal and committed individual



Sean McGuinness **Defender**
Summer signing from 23/24
Champions Flackwell Heath, Sean brings a experience of Step 4 football to the side



Sam Blakebrough **Midfielder**
Signed from Chalfont St Peter having previously played for Wealdstone. Technical player who likes to get on the ball and impressed when playing against us last season



James Goodey **Midfielder**
An energetic midfielder and a 2022 signing after impressing in pre-season. Previous step 5 experience with Ascot



Jack Simmons **Midfielder**
Back at Waters after spending two seasons playing college football in the USA. All-rounding midfielder



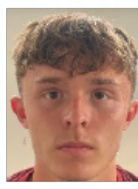
Saaim Rafi **Midfielder**
Returned to Waters after his spell at Loughborough University. Will add some control and quality in the centre of the park



Tommy Whitby **Forward**
Elusive winger, returned to Virginia Water after a short spell with Fleet Town



Turnell Sinclair **Forward**
Signed from Molesey in the 21/22 season and ended as our top goal scorer and player of the year. Delighted to have retained his services



Freddie Solly **Defender**
A young full back signed from Slough Town's Elite Development Squad. Brings youth and enthusiasm to the side



Chris Ellis **Defender**
Top signing for the club from close rivals Ascot United. Has a long throw in his armoury, the envy of many



Ash Hitchinson **Defender**
In his second season with VW. Accomplished at Centre Back, full back or central midfield. Big team player



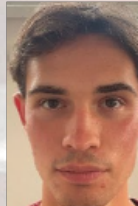
Harrison Marquez **Defender**
Another signing from the Slough Town Academy. Comfortable on the ball at centre back or left back



Jack Mills **Midfielder**
Signed from Spelthorne Sports in 2022. A quality, experienced midfielder whose previous clubs include Hayes & Yeading and Bedfont Sports



Josh Andrews **Midfielder**
Recently signed from the emerging Slough Town Academy. Versatile on the wing or at Left back



Cal Hamilton **Midfielder**
Great signing for the Waters, having returned to the area after graduation from Loughborough University. Energetic and quality midfielder



Billy Blake **Midfielder**
Younger brother of Ryan, joined us a couple of seasons ago from Ashford U18 Allied Counties. Terrific energy in midfield



Mark Bitmead **Forward**
Experienced and proven goal scorer at various levels of football. An excellent signing for the club from Bedfont Sports

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RFI FENCING

TODAY'S OPPONENTS

A relatively successful period in the club's recent history was capped off with promotion, via the play-offs, from SSMFL Division 1 at the end of 2023-24. Goals from Aaron King, Courtney Massay and an own goal sealed a hard-fought victory for Winslow in the play-off final at Northampton Sileby Rangers, a team that had finished second, one place above United in the final Division 1 table.



Since 2017-18 and in the days before end of season play-offs at Step 6, Winslow had gone close to promotion on several occasions. They finished in third place in Division 1 in 2017/18 and matched this in 2018-19. The outbreak of Covid19 put paid to a promotion push in 2019-20 when United were again sat in third place in March 2020.

In 2021-22 it looked as though the club were on for automatic promotion having overtaken Stotfold at the league summit at the beginning of February on the back of a tremendous run. However, a late Stotfold winner at New Roker Park on 12th February brought about a slump in form that ultimately saw Winslow pipped to 2nd place by Ampthill Town on the last day of the season and then succumb to Shefford Town and Campton in the Play-offs.

Chairman Andy Setterfield had looked to the club's successful youth set up and promoted from within for 2021-22; James Green joined as manager having previously coached the club's Junior teams from Under 8 onwards and was assisted by co-manager, ex-Aston Clinton manager, Jordan King. Whilst that tilt at promotion fell just short, there was plenty of entertaining football along the way whilst the club's Under 18 side made it to the 1st Round of the FA Youth Cup before bowing out to Ipswich Town at Portman Road.

Paul Bonham replaced Green and Jenkins in July 2022 but found management ultimately not to his liking and stepped down within two months to resume his coaching career elsewhere. Alex Woodfine and Aaron King stepped in to steady the ship, guiding the side to a creditable ninth place finish in 2022/23 and it was Woodfine, assisted by ex-Risborough Rangers and Aylesbury Vale Dynamos manager, Jon Franklin, that led United to Premier Division football in 2023/24 with King top-scoring on the pitch.

HISTORY

The club was formed in 1891. Originally games were played at Great Horwood Road before moving to the current ground, Elmfields Gate, in 1948. The club joined the South Midlands League in 1968 following success in the North Bucks Football League and were Berks & Bucks Junior Cup winners in the preceding 1967-68 season.

United won the SML Division 1 in 1974-75 and enjoyed many successful seasons in the SML Premier Division, recording fifth placed finishes in 1981-82 and 1986-87 as well as reaching the 2nd Round of the FA Vase in 1983-84. The club went into decline in the early 90s and were relegated from the SML Premier Division in 1991-92 having won only 2 games out of 42.

In 2009 Winslow withdrew from Spartan South Midlands football having suffered a number of 11th hour resignations from management but were back in Division 2 for the 2010-11 season under the management of Damien Wiffin and Kevin Marsden and the season ended well as United lifted the Division 2 Cup, defeating The 61FC 2-0 at Ampthill.

There are currently proposals for a new, bigger club house and changing rooms to replace the existing building that has been there since being opened in 1963.

6 DEGREES OF SEPARATION

Inspired by our friends over at Horsham FC, who have this feature in their programme, we thought we'd give it a go! Six degrees of separation is the idea that all people are six or fewer social connections away from each other. As a result, a chain of "friend of a friend" statements can be made to connect any two people in a maximum of six steps. The rule is that the two connecting people have to know each other. It's not enough for them to just link – for example, two people supporting the same football team.

So... Silky winger **James Goodey** consistently claims that he props up Tesla UK for Elon Musk, so let's see if there is a real connection there that can add a hint of truth for him!



1

Goodey said in his programme profile a few weeks ago, that he has kissed Ekin Su from Love Island. We'll go ahead and take his word for it that a) it happened and b) it was fully consensual and she knew about it...



2

Ekin SU was a contestant on Celebrity The Weakest link which was hosted by Romesh Ranganathan



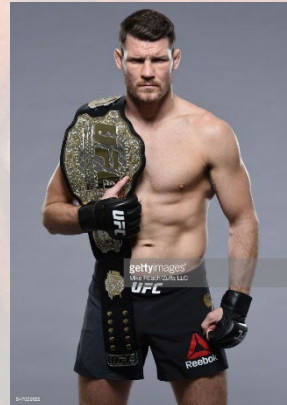
3

Romesh Ranganathan's TV show *Rob & Romesh Vs*, saw him meet Michael Bisping on the episode *Rob & Rom Vs UFC* (they actually went on a 4-hour road trip together!)



4

Former UFC Middleweight Champion Michael Bisping now works on commentary for the organisation with Joe Rogan. He also appeared on Rogan's podcast *The JRE*



5

And another of Joe's guests on his podcast, *The Joe Rogan Experience* #2054, was none other than Goodey's good pal...



6

Tesla and X (formerly Twitter) owner, Elon Musk! We can't say we agree with Musk's recent right-wing tendencies, but Goodey is his best pal all the same!



NAME: Jamie Di Giuseppe

POSITION: Centre Mid/Left Back/Centre Back

NICKNAME: JD

FUN FACT ABOUT YOURSELF: My first ever job was as a lifeguard at my local leisure centre



- 🏆 What is your day job?
Fire Engineer
- 🏆 Best player you've played with?
Michael Bryan – player! [formerly of Watford, now playing at Southall]
- 🏆 Previous clubs played for?
Hayes & Yeading, Windsor, Molesey, Cobham
- 🏆 What 3 words would describe your football playing style?
Technical, calm, experienced
- 🏆 What's been your best football moment to date?
My daughter watching me play for the first time
- 🏆 Matt Jones is buying the drinks, what are you having?
Vodka & pineapple
- 🏆 If you were stuck on a desert island, what 3 things would you have to have (no mobiles!)?
Nandos, TV (Firestick) and water
- 🏆 The team get a last minute penalty, who are you trusting to take it?
Only one man... Jack Mills
- 🏆 What's the best food you've ever had?
Nan's Italian cooking – absolute joke!
- 🏆 Being honest... what's your keepy up record?
No clue. Probably in the hundreds. I'd be there all day

Photo courtesy of Marcus Rashid

IN PROFILE

FROM THE BOSS

Good afternoon and a warm welcome to today's match officials and everyone associated with Winslow United FC.

It seems a long time ago we were at Arbour Park, with an away game last week and a 10-day break in fixtures prior to that. We needed that time to get a few players to recover from injuries, add one or two new faces to the group, not panic too much and regroup.

We got the exact reaction we needed away at Ardley which is a tough place to go, proven that they hadn't lost at home in 5 games. We had a game plan and the break allowed us to go and watch them against Hilltop, so we knew their

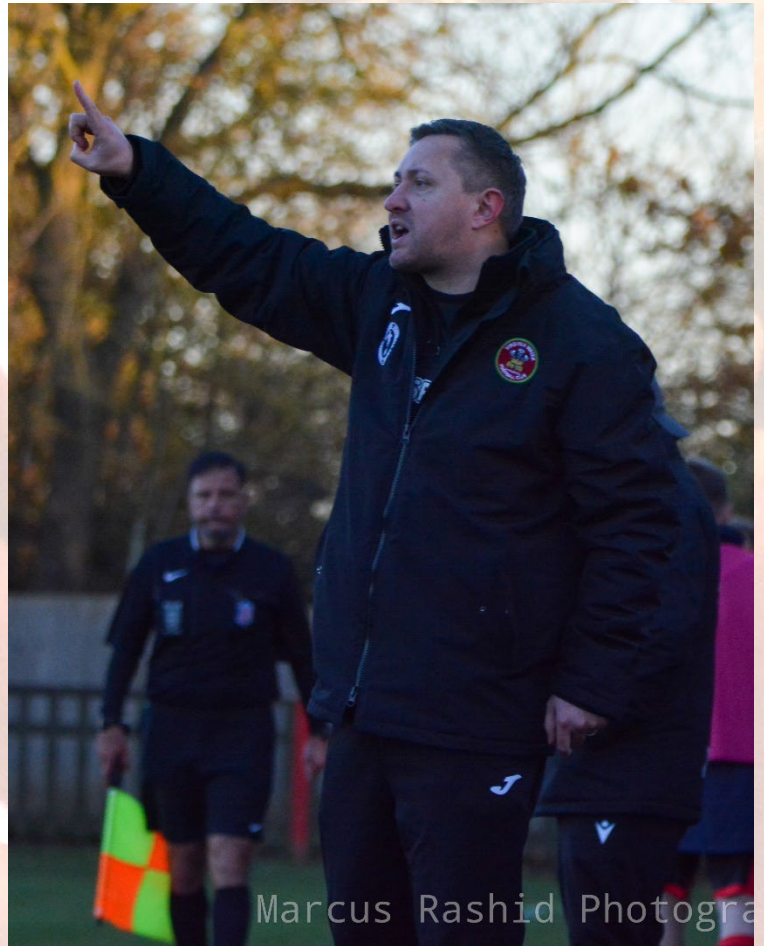
strengths and weaknesses. It was a very pleasing performance and result which also gave us our first clean sheet of the season which is a very solid platform to build on.

Today's game will be another tough challenge as Winslow have made a promising start to their league campaign and are in a similar league position to us. We know a couple of their players who previously played for Risborough Rangers last season. The FA Vase is always a special cup at our level and all clubs will be wanting to get a good run together. Last season saw us have the highs of beating Broadfields, and lows of then losing to Woodley on penalties. Hopefully today we can start off on the right way.

Today's game also brings us to a personal milestone where it's been a year since I took over from the Bessant's. Brad and I got our first win at Broadfields in the Vase. It's been a great journey so far and hopefully there are many more memories to be created.

Let get behind the team today and get a result, to build on last week.

UP THE WATERS!
Adam



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Sponsorship Opportunities

Adult team sponsorship (30 players)

- 1st Team kit sponsorship, your name and logo on back or chest of kit - £2000
- All Senior teams Warm up tops, your name and logo on back or chest - £2000
- Youth section sponsorship (>110 players)
- Youth Team Kit sponsorship, your name and logo on back or chest of kit - £500
- Youth Team Kit and Tracksuit sponsorship, your name and logo on back or chest of kit - £900
- Youth Section training jackets sponsorship (12 Teams every player will get a jacket with your company name on the back) - £2000

Various availability for 24/25 seasons depending on team requirements – please enquire with the club for specific team contacts

Pitch-side banners

- 2m x 600cm Banner pitch side at the Timbers - £500
- Web banners
- Your company banner on the Virginia Water FC website (1000 hits per month) - £500

Matchday programme

- Printed and online for 1st team for all home games
- Quarter page advertisement £250 for a season
- Half Page advertisement £500 for a season
- Full Page advertisement £800 for a season

With all of the above sponsorship your company will be added to our social media activities

Youth Section Update

The Youth Sides keep growing! We are now at 185+, and we are close to several more signings, so By October we expect 190 players. That will give us 4 Girls Teams and 17 Boys teams.

The Girls (Vixens) kicked off their first ever league campaign in the Surrey County Women and Girls League, with three fixtures played; a win, a draw and a loss but overall a decent start. They all had the best time, and we are so lucky to have these girls and team managers with the club - it really is taking us into the next level. The boys teams start their fixtures this weekend, and all are raring to go!

All kits were handed out at a new "Sizzler" event that was held at the club, where the kids had their photos taken, and we even had them sign up to the players code of conduct in at a Virginia Water Signing Station, as a bit of fun and to give them a "pro" experience!. A great day was had by all and we raised some funds celebrating the growing youth section at the same time.



Saturday mornings at, The Timbers, is a very busy place to be, with youth squad training, Wildcats, the Foundation Academy and a new addition for this season, Squad Girls (12-14 year olds). Please do come down and join in the fun and spread the word! We look onwards and upwards, wishing the best of luck to The Foxes, The Ravens, The Stags and The Vixens this weekend as their seasons kick off!

Lastly, the whole youth section sends their best wishes to the Senior team today in their Izuzu FA Vase game.

Up the Waters !!



Fixtures Today

21/09/24

FAV Bedfont Sports v Bedfont	Isuzu FA Vase
FAV Berks County v Brislington	Isuzu FA Vase
FAV Broadfields United v Rothwell Corinthians	Isuzu FA Vase
FAV Crawley Green v Holyport	Isuzu FA Vase
FAV Edgware & Kingsbury v Newport Pagnell Town	Isuzu FA Vase
FAV Fairford Town v Reading City	Isuzu FA Vase
FAV Long Buckby v Risborough Rangers	Isuzu FA Vase
FAV Milton United v Hengrove Athletic	Isuzu FA Vase
FAV Virginia Water v Winslow Utd	Isuzu FA Vase
FAV Wallingford & Crowmarsh v Sandhurst Town	Isuzu FA Vase
FAV Wembley v FC Deportivo Galicia	Isuzu FA Vase

L	Burnham v North Greenford United	Premier Division North
L	Harefield United v Egham Town	Premier Division North
L	Wokingham Town v Hilltop	Premier Division North



Virginia Water FC



Kit:

Maroon Shirts
Maroon Shorts & Socks
GK: Turquoise

Manager: Adam Sams

Assistant Manager: Ben Warren

Coaches: Dave Atkins, Brad Jones, Mark French

Physio: Elisha Timms

Squad:

Joshua Andrew | Dan Bailey | Mark Bitmead | Billy Blake | Ryan Blake | Sam Blakebrough | Andrio Brandao | Ryan Case | Jamie Di Giuseppe | Chris Ellis | Finn Evered | Reece Gairy | James Goodey | Callum Hamilton | Ashley Hitchinson | Matthew Jones | Idir Kermoud | Harrison Marquez | Sean McGuinness | Pierce McNamara | Jack Mills | Albie Nolan-French | Saaim Rafi | Jack Simmons | Turnell Sinclair | Freddie Solly | Adrin Tajik | George Tims | Tommy Whitby

Winslow United FC



Kit:

Yellow Shirts
Blue Shorts & Socks
GK: Green

Manager: Alex Woodfine

Assistant Manager: Jon Franklin

Physio: Maisie Jones

Squad:

Alfie Mumford | Jake Stronge | Jack Rowe | Ryan Freshwater (c) | Ethan Flanagan | George Boland | Charlie Rowe | George Kerr | Aaron King | Harry Scott | Courtney Massay | Jadell Brown | Simon King | Sam Olawale | Jamie Andrews | Charlie Attwell | Nathan Amaning

Match Officials

Referee: Stephen Meager

Assistant Referee: Franklyn Dennis

Assistant Referee: Sean Singh

Observer: Russell Stait

Match Day Mascots

Mavis Bonito - Wildcats | Jessica McGranaghan – U9 Vixens | Charlotte McGranaghan – U11 Vixens | Charlotte Mitchell – U11 Vixens | Sebastian Masso - U11 Stags | Oscar Cole - U11 Stags | Seb Cole - U11 Stags | Lewis Lea - U11 Stags